THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR.

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness."—JESUS CHRIST.

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HISTORICAL DISCOURSE

BY PRESIDENT GEORGE A. SMITH, DELIVERED IN THE NEW TABERNACLE, SALT LAKE CITY, JUNE 20, 1869.

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 510.]

On the 6th of February, 1846, the Saints commenced crossing the river. They crossed first on flat boats; but in a few days the river closed up and something like a thousand wagons crossed over on the ice, moving out west into the sparsely settled district on the eastern borders of Iowa; the settlements extending back from fifty to seventy miles. From that point it was a wilderness without roads, bridges, or improvements of any kind. They moved off, however, into this wilderness country in winter, and continued through the spring amid the most terrific storms and suffering from cold and exposure. In their progress to Council Bluffs they bridged thirty or forty streams, among which were the Locust and Medicine rivers, the three forks of the Grand River, the Little Platte, the One Hundred-and-Two, the Nodaway, Big Tarkeo, and the Nishnabotona. Bridging these streams, constructing roads, and breaking and enclosing three large farms required immense labour, which was done for the benefit and sustenance of those who would follow. In consequence of this and the inclemency of the weather they did not arrive at Council Bluffs on the Missouri river until late in June. The wagons and tents were numbered by thousands. The camps were spread out on the prairie for three hundred miles, moving in companies of tens, fifties, and hundreds.

While the advance companies were crossing the Missouri, they, on the 1st of July, were called upon by Captain James Allen, of the United States army, who was the bearer of an order for the enrolment of five hundred volunteers. They could ill be spared in their condition, but the number was made up in a few days and they proceeded on their journey to Fort Leavenworth and thence by way of Santa Fe to California, where they among a number of our countrymen were instrumental in adding this large domain to the United States.

The families of the volunteers who formed the Battalion, being thus left without protectors, entailed much additional responsibility and labour upon those left behind, and rendered it impossible for the companies to proceed to the Rocky Mountains that season. They encamped at Winter Quarters, the place now called Florence, in the Omaha country, where they built 700 log cabins and 150 caves or dug-outs, in which a great number of the people resided through the winter. Some two thousand wagons were scattered about in the Pottawattamie country, on the east side of the Missouri—a country then uninhabited except by Indians—which, by a treaty of

purchase, came into the possession of the United States the ensuing spring.

The winter of 1846-7 was one of great suffering among the people. They had been deprived of vegetable food; their diet, to a great extent, had consisted of corn meal and pork, which they had purchased from the Missourians, in exchange for clothing, beds, jewelry, or any other property that would sell. Yet they had sold comparatively none of their real estate and valuable property, in fact, most of the land remains unsold to this day. Under these circumstances the people suffered a great deal from scurvy; the exposure they had undergone also brought on fever and ague, hence their stay in Winter Quarters and the region round about is a memorable period in their history, from the sufferings, difficulties, and privations with which they had to contend. However they made the necessary preparations for their departure, and in the spring of 1847—early in April, 143 pioneers, led by Brigham Young, started to explore and make a road to the Great Salt Lake Basin.

There was not a spear of grass that their animals could obtain for the first two hundred miles of the journey, and they had to feed them on the cottonwoods that grew on the banks of the Platte river and other small streams. In this manner the pioneers worked their way, making the road as they went along. They travelled on the north side of the Platte, where no road had been before, until they reached Laramie; they then crossed the North Fork and took the old trappers' trail and travelled on it over three hundred miles, building ferry boats on North Platte and Green rivers, and then constructed a road over the mountains to this place.

During this journey they looked out a route where they were satisfied a railroad could be built, and were just as zealous in their feelings that a railroad would follow their track as we are to-day.

They arrived here on the 24th of July, 1847. They had some potatoes, which they had brought from Missouri; they planted them not far from where the City Hall now stands. In a few days after their arrival the Mississippi Company, which had wintered on the Arkansas river, a few of the sick and some families left by the Mormon Battalion, being unable to proceed with them to the Pacific—numbering altogether about 150, arrived here. They then began to feel that they were quite a populous settlement, as they counted in the neighbourhood of some four hundred persons. They laid out this Temple Block, and dedicated it to the Lord. It really was one of the most barren spots they ever saw. However, they asked the Lord to bless the land and to make it fruitful. They built a dam and made irrigation ditches. Some of their number lacked faith under those trying circumstances, and subsequently turned away and went to other parts of the world.

That fall—the fall of 1847, there came in here 680 wagons loaded with families. They built the fort commenced by the pioneers on the land, a portion of which is now occupied by A. O. Smoot in the 6th Ward of this city, the whole only covering about 30 acres. They dwelt in this contracted space that no temptation should be presented to the Indians to commit depredations.

During the winter they prepared a systematic plan for the irrigation of the land, for they knew nothing about it previously. They were compelled to ration out their food in small allowances, for they had no way to get more until it grew, and it required a great deal of faith on the part of the people to remain here and run the risk of procuring supplies from the earth. In the winter one or two hundred of the brethren from the West arrived almost without provisions, having been discharged from the Mormon battalion without rations or transportation to the place of their enlistment. They explored a new route from California. Some of them passed on to their families in Winter Quarters, suffering much for the want of provisions by the way. Many of them remained here, using as food everything that possibly could be used. The Saints divided with the Battalion their scanty allowance of food. During the next spring many hundred acres of land were planted. There was, however, a pest here that they had never

seen anywhere else. After the nursery of twenty thousand fruit trees had come up and the fields were green and there was a good prospect of grain being raised, there came down from the mountains myriads of large black crickets, and they were awfully hungry. The nurseryman went home to dinner, and when he returned he found only three trees left; the crickets had devoured them. They went through the fields and devoured the crops. The brethren contended with them until they were utterly tired out, then calling on the Lord for help were ready to give up the contest, when just at that time there came over from the Salt Lake large flocks of gulls, which destroyed the crickets. They would eat them until they were perfectly gorged, and would then disgorge, vomiting them up, and again go to and eat and so they continued until the crickets had entirely disappeared, and thus by the blessing of God the colony was saved. I believe the crickets have never been a pest in this vicinity to any serious extent since. This we regard as a special providence of the Almighty.

The early settlers did not know how to irrigate the crops properly and the result was that their wheat, the first year, was most of it very short, so short that it had to be pulled up, by the roots; but singularly enough there was considerable grain in the ear, and they raised enough to encourage them to persevere in their experiments, for their labours were only experiments at that early day; and also enabled them to diffuse information on the subject, which proved of general benefit. This location is so high in the mountains, the latitude about 41° and the altitude so great that nearly every one thought it was impossible to raise fruit, but some continued to plant. In the second year of their arrival here their settlement was increased by nearly a thousand wagons from the East and a few from the West. The third year the immigration continued. In 1849 a handsome sum of money was contributed as a foundation for the Perpetual Emigration Fund, and Bishop Edward Hunter went east to aid those to emigrate who could not do so by their own means. While the Saints were surrounded by their enemies on every hand in Illinois they entered into a solemn covenant within the walls of the Temple at Nauvoo that they would exert themselves to the extent of their influence and property to aid every Latter-day Saint that desired to gather to the mountains. This covenant they did not forget, and the very moment they began to gather a little surplus they commenced to use it to aid their brethren and sisters left behind. At first they purchased, in the East, cattle and wagons necessary to bring the emigrants here; but in a few years they raised cattle here, and sent their teams to the Missouri River year after year, sometimes two hundred and sometimes three hundred and they have sent as many as five hundred teams, for several successive seasons—a team being four yoke of oxen (or their equivalent in horses and mules), a wagon, a teamster, also the necessary officers and night guard for each company of fifty wagons. In this way they continued to bring their brethren not only from every part of the United States, but also from Europe, Asia, Africa, and Australasia. This system of emigration is continued up to the present time, and has resulted in bringing many of the Saints together, and has materially increased the population of Utah.

In the early settlement of the Territory, the Latter-day Saints had other obstacles to contend with besides those already referred to. In 1849, and for several years after, a considerable number of men passed through here on their way to the gold mines in California. Numbers of them would have perished had it not been for the provisions and supplies unexpectedly obtained here. They knew not how to outfit themselves for such a journey, and were unwilling to abide the restraints of organization necessary for their own preservation on the Plains. Hence they wore out their teams and quarreled with each other, and arrived here in every conceivable stage of destitution. Upon their arrival here they were treated as friends, employed, and furnished with the necessary outfit as far as it could be obtained. I may say that tens of

thousands received the assistance necessary to enable them to proceed to California to realize, if possible, their visions of gold. While the Latter-day Saints were pursuing this course, they too were tempted with a spirit of going to the gold mines. The counsel given to the brethren by President Young was to stay at home, make their farms, cultivate the earth, build houses, and plant gardens and orchards. But many preferred to go to the mines, and they went; but I believe that in every instance those who went, returned, not having made as much as if they had followed the counsel given. There was this difference; the men who went to California could dig a hole and take a little gold out of it; but after a time the supply of gold would be exhausted, and then, after paying their expenses, the most of them had nothing left but a hole in the ground; but the men who went to work here on their five or ten acre lots, or even on their city lots of an acre and a quarter, in the course of a year or two had a snug little home. The result was that those who remained at home and diligently attended to agricultural pursuits were the most successful.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

PEACE WHEN THERE IS NO PEACE.

At no former period that we remember did European society of all classes more earnestly desire peace and tranquility, or evince that desire more demonstratively. There is not a nation, not a Government, that does not, in one form or another, give expression to it; and if there are some Powers that are not altogether frank in their avowals on this head, the very violence they must be doing to their own individual wishes affords an unmistakeable index of the extent and strength of the hold which the sentiment has taken upon the nations. But is it not surprising, notwithstanding the existence of this feeling, and its practical recognition by the Governments, that a sense of uneasiness should largely prevail in the public mind? The precise cause of this unrest it would be impossible to trace out with any pretentions to clearness; but turn in any direction we may, the fact presents itself of a vague disquietude, of an ominous conviction that some grand event is impending, that some commotion is at hand, to be initiated on an unknown occasion in some unknown quarter, but very certainly approaching its period of maturity. The truth is, that we have not to look either to international peace or international war for the explanation of this widespread moral disturbance. Neither of these is really in question. The uneasiness is due to the operation of causes lying much deeper below the surface of affairs. As for war, not only does no human being desire it who does not belong to the very small class whose interests would be better served by war than by peace; but there are no apparent causes tending to produce an early rupture of peace anywhere. Between Prussia and France, the two Powers which seemed recently the most disposed of any to come speedily into hostile collision, such an occurrence is not now to be apprehended; because, whatever issue it might have, that issue would not be less fatal to the one belligerent Power than to the other. It is certainly not war, then, that is looming in the distance. But will continued peace bring back calmness and a sense of security? Unhappily, no; for it is in the interior of every State that the elements of future trouble are in commotion; and if upon any one point they pass into the sphere of mischievous activity, we may be certain that all Europe will rapidly be pervaded by the consequences. In Spain the longing for a Republican form of Government may be partially subdued for a time, but it has acquired too much strength and extension of late to disappear altogether, and the Republican party will only adjourn their efforts, the more so because they know that a movement in the same direction succeeding in a neighbouring country, would immediately insure their triumph. Italy will never feel herself thoroughly set-

tled down as long as the foreigner continues on her soil, wringing from her, by sheer force, the toleration of that which she rejects. She, too, is "abiding the event;" and when, at length, the day comes on which the last French bayonet has disappeared from her midst, and that temporal power shall have fallen into nothing which can now maintain itself by factitious means only, the Italians will probably bring to an account a monarchy which has shown but little sympathy with the men to whom it owes its enlarged power, but which has done its best to rivet the fetters in which their "ally" has held them for years past. In all speculations on the probable issue of a crisis we must take men as we find them, and a people with its faults as well as with its merits. Patience is not the crowning virtue in the French character. They fall asleep suddenly, and for a period of eighteen or twenty years have all the appearance of being, as a nation, extinct. Then they awaken as suddenly, and forgetful of their long lethargy, think to re-establish in a day all that has been destroyed during the long period of their sleep. Their situation is now a serious one, they are surrounded with grave dangers, contending parties seem resolutely bent upon upholding their respective pretentions, and from the grand aggregate of difficulty there seems to be absolutely no escape save in some violent rupture. Should the event be such as there is evidently reason to anticipate, it will have a reverberation far and wide in every direction around. It will respect neither the Pyrennees, nor the Alps, nor the line of the Rhine. All Europe will be embraced by its far-reaching influences. All this is secretly felt and dreaded, though it is also felt that such a state of things could not continue consistently with the general interests of humanity, and it lies at the base of the pervading uneasiness of which we have indications everywhere. —*Advertiser.*

ENGLISH REMEDY FOR POLYGAMY.

English writers are constantly scandalized by the existence of polygamy in Utah. They consider it a shame to our government that such a state of things is permitted, but pass lightly over the fact that the converts to polygamy and Mormonism are principally found in England, and continue such in America only because they are immediately turned off into the wilderness, where hitherto our educational institutions and public sentiment have been almost unable to reach them. The remedies they have proposed for this abomination have been greatly diversified, but none of them such a we have been able to avail ourselves of.

It appears that of late they have found polygamy existing among their own subjects in an English colony. The natives of Natal, it seems, are in the habit of not only indulging in a plurality of wives, but of openly buying and selling them at auction. Wives were thus largely monopolized by the wealthy—a very undesirable condition of things. English reformers naturally undertook to remedy this. In doing so they evinced ideas that were at least very practical, if they had no other merit to commend them. They abandoned all the fine sentimentality they indulged in when giving advice to the Americans, and went to work in quite another way. They did not even absolutely prohibit the practice. They sought to regulate and tax it and its abuses out of existence. To stop the auctions, they fixed the highest price at which a wife ought to be sold at ten head of cattle. For second and third rate wives, however, so far as we can see, an auction might still be necessary to get them off the hands of their managing papas or mammas, whom ever arrange such bargains. Then to discourage, while they did not absolutely forbid the practice, they taxed the husband for all wives he had besides the first, according to a sliding scale, ten dollars per head being added for every one additional. Whether

the tax collector would levy upon the wives of the delinquent and sell them to raise the tax and costs, if it remained unpaid, is not stated. The tax may operate to discourage polygamy by making it too expensive, but once paid there can be no further legal objection to the having of more than one wife. English law apparently legalizes it.

This, then, is the English plan of disposing of polygamy—taxing it out of existence. What would Brigham Young and his Apostles say, if, among the statements required by the Internal Revenue or County Assessor, after an enumeration of their other taxable property, came wives at $50 or $100 each, with a sliding scale, increasing in proportion to the extent of the luxury indulged in? We submit the question of the operation of such a law to the Utah journals.—*San Francisco Bulletin.*

In many important respects the world is running upside down. The English reformers have got this wives question wrong way about. But America, being the "smartest nation in all creation," has now a fine chance to show its smartness by reversing this plan of the English reformers, and, instead of taxing a man for getting married, give him a handsome premium with every woman he marries. That's more like the right way. But let the State require his head every time he commits adultery.

GENERAL COUNCILS OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH.

1. The first General Council was that of Nice, held in 325, for the purpose of refuting the heresies of Arius, who asserted that Christ was inferior to His Father.

2. The second General Council was held at Constantinople, A.D. 381, to refute the errors of Macedonius, who asserted that the Holy Ghost was not one of the three divine persons.

3. The third General Council was held at Ephesus in 431, concerning the heresy of Nestorius, who asserted that the Blessed Virgin should not be called the Mother of God.

4. The fourth General Council met at Chalcedon in 451, to decide on the doctrine of Eutyches, who denied the humanity of Christ.

5. The fifth General Council was held at Constantinople in 553. It condemned the heresy of Origen, who asserted that the Holy Ghost is nothing more than divine energy, or power of acting, &c.

6. The sixth General Council met at Constantinople, A.D. 680. It condemned the doctrine of the Monothelites.

7. The seventh met at Nice, 787, to denounce the impiety and heresy of the Iconoclasts, who opposed veneration of images.

8. The eighth General Council met at Constantinople, 869, and confirmed the reverence of images and other regulations of the Church.

9. The ninth General Council and the first Lateran met 1123.

10. The tenth General Council and the second Lateran met 1139. This Council, among other matters, condemned the acts of Arnold of Brescia.

11. The eleventh General Council also met in the Lateran, 1197. This Council ordained that the right of voting for a new Pontiff should from that time forward belong exclusively to the College of Cardinals.

12. The twelfth also met in the Lateran, 1215. This Council, among other matters, gave its assent to seventy chapters drawn up by the Pope, who presided at it.

13. The thirteenth General Council met at Lyons in 1245. Its object was that of deposing the Emperor Frederick. It also treated of three other subjects: First—The assisting of the Empire of Constantinople against the Turks; second—Germany against the Tartars: and third—The Holy Land against the Saracens.

14. The fourteenth General Council met at Lyons, 1274, for the purpose, among other things, of re-uniting the Greek Church.

15. The fifteenth General Council

met at Vienne, 1311, for the purpose of suppressing the order of Knights Templars, and the doctrine of the "Brethren and Sisters of the Free Spirit," a German institution was condemned.

16. The sixteenth General Council was that of Constance, which assembled, 1414, on account of a dispute that existed in the election of a Pope, there being at that time no less than three claimants for the holy office.

17. The seventeenth General Council is known as that of Ferrara and Florence. Its object was the reunion of the Latin and Greek Churches.

18. The eighteenth General Council was the Council of Trent, which was convoked in 1545 by Pope Paul III. to refute the heresies of Luther, Calvin, and Zuinglius.

MICHAEL T. GIBBONS.

—*New York Sun.*

GEORGE FRANCIS ALIVE YET.

In the *Deseret News* of Nov. 10, is the following characteristic note from the irrepressible George Francis Train, which, with other productions by the same genius, reminds us of the familiar old lines :—

God moves in a mysterious way,
His wonders to perform.

Holly, Michigan,
October 29th, 1869.

Dear A. Milton Musser, Esq.,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Thanks for kind letter, good will, and statistics. Facts don't lie—figures can't cheat. Realities are arguments. A community without jails, almshouses, drunkards, gamblers, prostitutes, loafers, or *paid* priests—a religion free from cant, hypocrisy, and puritanism—a people who live in their own houses and mind their own business, shall not be again insulted or molested, so long as a million of Irish boys acknowledge me as the leader of the Celtic race. Crowds greet me everywhere with cheers. Truth is mighty and must prevail. Shams exposed, frauds detected, villainy unearthed, psalm singers shewn up, is the result of my teaching. Anna D. and Colfax make a mistake when they place their bull on the track of my locomotive; my guns are double-shotted, my demagogueism means fight. Stand by your co-operative system. President Young is right. Move to come into the Union. Clean out that Gentile camp. When Congress interferes with Utah, down goes their partition. Regards to friends. Thank President Geo. A. Smith for his kind note, enclosing photograph of organ.

Sincerely,

GEO. FRANCIS TRAIN.

ALMOST AS BAD AS LIVERPOOL.—The *Glasgow Weekly Mail* gives a frightful picture of the profligacy openly exhibited in that city. "Our investigations lead us to believe that in this pious city of Glasgow street prostitution exists, if not on a greater, at least on an infinitely more offensive and demoralising scale than in any city in the United Kingdom, or, for the matter of that, almost in Europe." By night and by day, we are told, the streets swarm with women plying their infamous trade. "Our leading thoroughfares are so infested with them after dark that the respectable female population can hardly venture out of doors, and decent men scarcely dare to allow their wives and daughters to walk out at night, even when well escorted, lest they should be insulted or see sights to which they ought not to be exposed in a civilized and Christian country." The police are "regularly bribed," and "wink at the grossest violation of propriety occurring almost under their noses." The papers are calling out for a system of licensing, and, says the *Mail*, "If the morals of Glasgow be not improved by the measure, at all events our streets will be restored to decency, and a fruitful source of violence and robbery be eliminated from our midst.—*Liverpool Mercury.*"

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1869.

HEALTH AT SALT LAKE.

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Salt Lake Valley and the Territory of Utah has usually been considered a very healthy region, but statements have occasionally been made that Salt Lake City is a very unhealthy place, as unhealthy as some of the worst cities of Christendom, and, as a large proportion of the deaths is among children of tender years, the inference, being very much desired, is hastily drawn, that such undue infantile mortality is largely chargeable to the plural marriage relations of the Latter-day Saints. Sufficient reason, however, does not appear for any such inference. At Salt Lake City, children of monogamous parents enjoy no immunity, more than children of polygamous parents, from the prevailing diseases of that region, so far as our observation has extended, nor do the children of those who are very well to do much, if any, more than the children of those who are not so well to do.

Let us look at the mortality returns in this country. According to the report of the Registrar-General for the last quarter, the average death-rate in eleven of the principal English towns was at the rate of a fraction over 25 per thousand per annum, in the rural districts a fraction over 17 per thousand per annum, in Liverpool upwards of 30 per thousand per annum. Birmingham is the healthiest large town in the kingdom, Bristol the next. Liverpool is the most unhealthy. Of all the deaths, 62 of every 100 were of children under five years of age.

Much has been said of the proportion of the infant mortality at Salt Lake City, but it will be seen that a similar proportion obtains in England, and we have seen statements of a similar proportion also prevailing at San Francisco, a situation of very mild and equable temperature, and New York city, in the papers of those places. In other cities still, the proportion of mortality among the young is very great. So that really this point is not so remarkable as some people may suppose in regard to Salt Lake City.

Exact statistics of new and thriving countries and cities are rather difficult to obtain, but from the best information that we can collect upon the subject, we are led to the conclusion that the mortality of Salt Lake City rates about the same as that of the healthier towns of England, or from 20 to 25 per thousand per annum. Many of our acquaintances consider this estimate much too high, and probably 20 is high enough. In most of the smaller settlements of Utah, so far as we can learn, the mortality is very slight indeed, far less than in even the healthiest rural districts of England. In former years, when the population was much smaller, the mortality of Salt Lake City was also much smaller in proportion than now.

There are several reasons why the mortality at Salt Lake City is largely in-

excess of what it would be under other conditions. A number of people are buried at Salt Lake City, whose places of residence were elsewhere. Many families in the city have branches or relatives temporarily or otherwise working or residing in the settlements, who are buried in the city. A larger proportion of people in the city work at the more unhealthy occupations. There is a larger proportion of poor in the city than in the country. A greater number of travellers visit the city than the country settlements. There is a greater number of very transient population in the city than in the settlements. As a general thing the water drunk in the city is not so pure as that drunk in the settlements. There is more luxury in the city than in the settlements. The city is the point of concentration for travel and trade and freight and for the inhabitants of the Territory for many purposes, and consequently is more liable to suffer by infectious and contagious diseases than any other place in the Territory. The air of a city cannot be as pure as that of the country.

There are reasons why the people of Utah Territory should not be so healthy as those of some other regions. It is a high, mountainous, arid country. The soil in places is very alkaline, and the dust consequently uncongenial to the skin, eyes, mouth, nostrils, and lungs. It is a keen, severe climate—in summer, very hot; in winter, very cold; in the glaring summer sun, roasting; in the southern summer winds, parching; in the northerly summer breezes, cool and penetrating; in the summer evenings, almost always chilly to cold, thus rendering it very easy to catch colds, chills, fevers, neuralgia, rheumatics, pleurisy, etc., when people are careless of their persons. The inhabitants of Utah, those not born there, are not composed wholly of the young, vigorous, strong, and energetic, full of vitality, but they are composed of persons from many countries, of both sexes, of all ages, the very old and the very young, of all degrees of health, strength, vigour, and bodily soundness, some debilitated by steady, hard, long labour and long-endured privations, all unacclimated, and all unused to the ways, manners, and customs of the country—all of which tends to increase rather than decrease the mortality, even among adults.

Now as to the mortality among the children. Salt Lake has a hot climate in the summer, and it is well known that intestinal diseases are more common and more intractable in hot climates than in colder ones. The delicate organizations of infants, so liable, under the best conditions, to bowel complaints while teething, are more dangerously liable to those complaints, and of a virulent kind, in hot countries during or toward the close of the hot season. Indeed everywhere the autumn or fall of the year is comparatively sickly, a liability which even the best sanitary arrangements sometimes fail to materially mitigate. The climate of Salt Lake, being sharp, penetrating, and bracing, rather than soft, mild, and genial, though exceedingly healthy to strong and rugged constitutions, is apt to tell upon the more feeble systems of infants, unless very great care is taken with them. Besides, the cities and settlements of Utah swarm with children. In no other country are there so many in proportion to the number of adults, and consequently the proportion of mortality among the children at Salt Lake will naturally be expected to be greater than at other places in a like latitude.

So at last, all things taken into consideration, we must acknowledge that Salt Lake City is a healthy place, and Utah Territory a very healthy region.

J. J.

Conference and Meetings.—On the 21st ult., in company with Elders L. W. Richards, L. W. Shurtliff, N. Pratt, J. S. Lewis, J. S. Richards, and C. W. West, jun., we had the pleasure of meeting with the Saints in Conference at Brierly Hill, Ebbw Vale, Monmouthshire, and on the 22nd enjoyed the concert at the same place; on the evening of the 23rd met with the Saints in the Temperance Hall, Merthyr; on the 24th at Aberamon; on the 25th a brief illness prevented our attending the evening meeting at Cardiff, also at Merthyr on the 26th; on Sunday, the 28th, attended the afternoon and evening meetings at Swansea; parted with Brothers J. S. Lewis, N. Pratt, and L. W. Richards at Swansea, on the 29th, and attended evening meeting in Bristol; and in Bath on the 30th, where we parted with the rest of the brethren, and returned to Liverpool on the 1st inst. At each meeting there were goodly audiences, who listened with marked attention; and the faith, diligence, and good works of both officers and members are very commendable. There is quite a spirit of inquiry in some places, and baptisms are encouragingly frequent.

President Lewis informed us that quite a large number would be able to emigrate from the Swansea Branch next season, through their own means and the assistance promised by relations and friends in Utah. We hope and pray that the other branches throughout this mission will in like manner be blessed in having the way opened for all who desire to live their religion and be further taught its principles and enjoy its inestimable blessings in the vales of Utah.

Departures.—Elder George Stanger left this port for New York, on the steamship *Colorado*, Dec. 1. He had been on a visit to his relatives in this country, four of whom accompanied him on his return.

Elders Thomas Tarbet and Richard E. Davies left this port for New York, on the steamship *City of Brooklyn*, Dec. 2, the former returning from his mission to the Isle of Man, and the latter from a visit to his relations in Wales.

Holland.—Elder M. Holling wrote from Amsterdam, Nov. 26, that the Saints generally in that country felt well and bright. Some of the better-to-do classes were convinced of the truth, strength and courage to obey were next in order. Persons were inquiring also from other parts of the country. Brother Poorte had left for Zwalle.

Notice.—It has been deemed best to attach the Bolton Branch of the Manchester Conference to the Liverpool Conference, the change to date from and after the 30th of November last.

Post-office Orders.—All Post-office Orders sent to us should be made payable at Pembroke Place, Liverpool. All persons concerned, please remember, and forget not.

MINUTES OF THE MONMOUTHSHIRE CONFERENCE,

HELD AT THE BELLE VUE ROOM, BRIERY HILL.

Ebbw Vale, Monmouthshire,
November 21, 1869.

11 A.M.

The following Elders from America were on the stand—Albert Carrington, President of the European Mission; Lewis W. Shurtliff, President of London Conference; Joseph S. Richards, President of Bristol Conference; L. W. Richards, President of Monmouthshire Conference; Nephi Pratt, President of Glamorganshire Conference; John S. Lewis, President of Swansea Conference; and Chauncey W. West, jun., on a mission to Switzerland.

President Richards reported his labours in the Conference, and felt to rejoice in them. The Saints in general were a good and a kind people, living their religion, and striving to do all the good they could. He read the financial and statistical reports. There were 8 branches, 46 elders, 14 priests, 6 teachers, 11 deacons; total officers and members, 302. During the previous half-year 8 had been cut off, 33 had emigrated, and 16 had been baptized.

The authorities of the Church were presented and unanimously sustained.

2 P.M.

President J. S. Richards testified to the truth of the everlasting Gospel and his satisfaction in knowing that he was fulfilling the mind and will of the Lord in the advancement of His kingdom on the earth, and also of the faithfulness of the people he was labouring amongst. He urged all to do that which was right, that they might have that knowledge that will save them in the Church and kingdom of God.

President Carrington discoursed on the beauty of the glorious principles of our holy religion, and the importance of the Saints putting the same into practice and gathering to Zion, with the single object of living our religion and aiding to a greater extent the extension of God's kingdom on the earth.

5 30 P.M.

President John S. Lewis addressed the meeting in Welsh. He testified that this was the Church and Kingdom of God, and that all who would oppose it would suffer loss, but all who obeyed would be saved. He spoke also of the restitution of all things.

President L. W. Shurtliff bore testimony to the truth of this work. His mission, with that of his brethren, was to gather out the honest in heart to the land of Zion. He would advise all, who were not impelled by pure motives, to keep from the land of Zion.

President Nephi Pratt bore testimony that he knew Joseph Smith to be a Prophet of the most high God, and also of the truth of the everlasting Gospel as revealed in these last days.

President J. S. Lewis spoke briefly in English.

President Carrington gave good instructions with regard to our salvation, temporal and eternal.

Conference closed with benediction by Elder J. S. Lewis.

WILLIAM M. POWELL,
Clerk of Conference.

CORRESPONDENCE.

AMERICA.

S. L. City, Nov. 9, 1869.

President Albert Carrington.

Dear Brother—Those three brethren that were wounded in the Bear river collision, are getting along well, and for aught I know to the contrary, the rest of the company are doing well. As for your humble servant, I am sorry to say that about half an hour after returning home I was taken to bed with severe symptoms of lung fever and pleurisy. As yet I have not been able to go up town, but have been confined to my room since the 29th ult., but thanks be to God I am getting better fast, and shall soon be able to walk up to the President's and

also call and see Sister Carrington. I am much better this morning.

I still feel that I would not exchange my Utah friends for all I have seen in the old world. Many changes have taken place with business and people, some have gone this way and others that, but the kingdom of God is as bright as ever, and is cutting from it those that will not be controlled by him whom God has appointed.

Well, I am truly thankful that I am home again, after an absence of two and a half years, and I thank my Heavenly Father for His many mercies and blessings over me, for truly has He acknowledged the blessing that Brother Wells placed upon my head as I left my home for other climes, every word of which has been literally fulfilled, and now am I rejoicing in Zion with those I left behind.

Many times have I thought, since I came home, of the dear good souls I have left behind in Old England, and wished that I could pack them up, right side up with care, for this happy place, for truly do I know that there are some of the Lord's poor in my native land. To all such I would again say, trust in the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and in His own due time will He deliver you. His promises never fail, and although it may appear long ere deliverance comes, still it will come, and, when it does, will it not be joyous to meet friends, brothers, sisters, father, mother, and, above all, to see and hear our beloved President, Brigham Young, and when the fatigues of the journey are worn away, then can we, with God's people, join in the songs and dances in Zion. Allow me, through Brother Carrington, to say, God bless you for all your many acts of kindness to me, and may we soon meet again in Utah.

With kindest love to you all in the Office, and every good Saint,

Yours ever in the Gospel,

JAMES NEEDHAM.

S. L. City, Nov. 12, 1869.

President A. Carrington.

Dear Brother—I have been so very sick that I could not write. Unable to walk out, I could not call upon your family, but I did so yesterday. Sister Carrington is well, and so are all the family. Sister Jaques looks pretty well, considering her late sickness. She appears comfortable.

The days of sickness this fall seem to be nearly past. The children, as a general thing, have suffered the most.

The captain and officers of the *Minnesota* were very kind and obliging, and rendered us much assistance, especially when we arrived at New York. I thought they manifested a care towards us I had never seen before, especially the captain. Even the government officers seemed to treat us with more respect than I had ever before witnessed, but I consider a great deal depended upon Brother Staines, for his name with the officers was a guarantee. I have landed in America several times, but the provision made at Castle Garden for the emigrants is worthy of all praise. I spent the night in the large hall with the Saints, and felt thankful for the accommodation.

You would feel grieved when you heard of our accident, but I do rejoice when I consider the small number of deaths that occurred. The express train ahead of us had leaped the track, but I understood it was all right again, and about to proceed, and they probably thought there was no danger. Another engine at the back of the express, which had been helping it, started towards us, not for the purpose of meeting us, but to get out of our way, for it was close to the siding, and would have been on it in another minute, but our engine ran into the other, smashing ours and two carriages. The difficulty occurred through a curve and deep excavation.

As a general thing the conductors behaved very well towards us. When our train made stoppages, we frequently had considerable trouble with members of the company straying around, and some would be left behind sometimes, catching up by other trains when they could. At one station one woman, who had six children aboard, was left behind. After a day or two, she caught up with us again. Some of the men and boys with their water-bottles would be left behind sometimes, and would become the laughing-stock of the whole company.

I called on President B. Young. It

did me good to see how well he looked —the same congenial face. It does an honest man good to talk with him.

The Lord bless you and all the brethren, in the Office and out

As ever,

JOHN TOONE.

ENGLAND.

61, Great Freeman Street,
Nottingham, Nov. 30, 1869.

President A. Carrington.

Dear Brother,—I am happy to inform you that the Saints feel much better than I have known them since I commenced to labour in this Conference. Many are beginning to pay their tithing, observe the words of wisdom, and attend to their meetings well. The number of grumblers are few in comparison with the many that compose this Conference, and with all I take great pleasure in my labours, for I never saw a happier day than the present. The Saints are very kind to me, notwithstanding that they are very poor. They always seem glad to see me, and receive my teachings with pleasure. I endeavour to confine my teachings to the duties of the Saints, which I try to present before the people in the spirit of the Gospel. I feel that the Lord does work with me in my labours, for when I lay my hands on the sick in the name of the Lord they are healed, and many of them instantly, and when I speak in the defence of the truth there is a power attends me and my words, that all are strangers to, save those whom God has called and ordained.

Some who had become corrupt have been cut off, and this seems to have awakened others to their duties, and thus there seems to be a reformation commenced, which I trust will spread.

Quite a number of strangers attend our meetings, and some are being baptized, but there seems to be a great indifference manifested toward the Gospel generally. Many have heard my warning, and with the help of God many more shall. I attend meeting almost every night, and feel exceedingly well in teaching the people the ways of life.

Ever praying God to bless you and assist you in your labours, and the brethren in the Office, I remain,

Your Brother in Christ,

GEO. LAKE.

UTAH NEWS.

THE following are from the *Deseret News* to Nov. 15 :—

Brother William Willes was about publishing the *Mountain Warbler*.

Charlotte, daughter of Elder Andrew Love, was drowned in the millrace of J. Andrews, Nephi, Nov. 6.

Brother Amos Fielding was going into the ink-manufacturing business. Has the mantle of brother G.G. fallen upon him?

The Omaha *Herald* man had talks with Elder Milo Andrus and other of the missionaries to the States and was highly gratified therewith.

General Gibbon, a short time ago, brought to Utah 14 pairs of California quails and set them at liberty, that they might "increase and multiply."

The militia of the Sanpete military district assembled at Camp Hyde for general muster Oct. 27, 28, and 29. A complimentary ball followed on the evening of the 29th at Mauti.

Brother E. Elmer, of St. Joseph, wrote, Oct. 25, that the cotton crop there was short, but of good quality. The people of the settlement had been very healthy, and sickness was quite unknown among them.

Hon. W. H. Hooper, and Elders R. T. Burton and Theodore Mc. Kean left Salt Lake City Nov. 14, the first named gentleman to attend to his duties as delegate to Congress, and the others on their missions to the States.

Mr. Aaron Smethurst, of Porterville, Morgan County, thinks cast iron tinned hollow ware could be successfully made there, as iron could be obtained and there are men in the Territory who understand the business.

Mr. George Seaman, of Salt Lake City, while stepping between two cars, at Granger, U.P.R.R., missed his footing, and was doubled up by them, his spine and stomach being seriously injured. He was conveyed to the city and placed in charge of Dr. Anderson. He was in a critical condition, but hopes were entertained of his recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. Townsend, of the Townsend House, gave a complimentary party. Nov. 11, in their new hall. Among the guests were the First Presidency, several of the Twelve, a number of other leading citizens, and some distinguished gentlemen visiting the city. Dancing at 8 p.m., supper between 10 and 11, entertainment choice and elegant, music of the best, everybody happy.

The traveling agent of the *News* wrote from Mount Pleasant, Sanpete county, Nov. 7:—"I have found the people feeling remarkably well in health and spirits and highly delighted over the recent visit of the President and party. I hear less grumbling and fault finding than ever before in my travels through these settlements, and a spirit of improvement seems to be manifest everywhere. A fine new meeting house is being built here in Mount Pleasant, and the people are busy threshing the largest crop of wheat ever raised in Sanpete."

Mr. J. Morgan wrote from Provo, Nov. 11, that a new co-operative store was going up there, and a school had been organized under the supervision of a well qualified gentleman. At Provo, Bishop Smoot's residence, south of the Public Square, made a fine appearance, Bishop Sheets' house was making rapid strides towards completion, the fence around the Public Square was well advanced, men were at work on the vestry of the Tabernacle, also on a large grist mill. The people rejoiced in a plenteous harvest, grasshoppers notwithstanding.

THE following is from the *Salt Lake Telegraph* of Nov. 11:—

Daniel H., a six year old son of Brother James Snarr, was kicked by a horse in the forehead, Nov. 10, the blow laying it open and slightly fracturing his skull. Dr. Anderson attended to the wound, and the boy was doing very well.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

The King of the Belgians, at Buckingham Palace, received a national address from the counties, cities, and corporate boroughs, Nov. 25. About 400 mayors, ex-mayors, and other provincial authorities were present, many in their official robes. What an accumulation of dignity! Commanders and other officers of volunteers also presented him an address.

Janet Hermiston, an orphan girl at Galashiels, flew into a passion and went and drowned herself because her bread was not buttered.——Pittsburg, U.S., has a "corner" in oil, not quite so big as the Wall-street bubble.——Ben Crissey, of Stephenston, New York, attempted to outrage Mrs. Dodd, in her own house. She seized an axe and struck him a blow that finished him instantly, and served him right. ——Gov. Safford, of Arizona, calls for volunteers to fight the Indians.——Montana asks protection from the Indians, who, it is said, mean to drive the whites out of the country. ——Fine goods are now sent to the Southern States. The negroes don't want coarse goods any longer.——American papers say a Canadian Pacific Railroad is impracticable.——A thunder storm, on Nov. 21 and 22, did considerable injury to persons and property near Tralee.——Napoleon says, "I desire the widest and most absolute affirmation of liberty."——A child was poisoned at Westbourne through eating chrysanthemum flowers.——President Grant says he counts with eagerness every month remaining of his term of office.——Money is very abundant in Canada.——Catholics once called England the "refugium peccatorum." They now apply that term to the United States.——An American paper says, "the Empire" has done as much to encourage the most glaring revelry and vices as the worst periods of the reigns of Louis XIV. and Louis XV.——Another extensive scheme for organized emigration to

the West is on foot at New York.——The New York "Sun" thinks there is danger that before many years the United States will be a treeless, rainless, desert country.——Madame Grisi died in Berlin, Nov. 29.——Foot and mouth disease prevails in America, supposed to arise from poisonous bites of flies.——Omaha has 37 public prostitutes, and thinks itself the most moral city of its size in America, Utah always excepted.——The New York "Herald" wants General Grant to invite Eugenie and Victoria to visit the United States.——The Supreme Court at New Bedford, Massachusetts, is almost exclusively occupied with divorces. Conjugal offences predominate. Bad sign.——Col. Sam Hatch has contracted to build 1,000 miles of levee along the Mississippi River for Louisiana.——An eleven year old Wisconsin damsel has knitted 48 pairs of stockings the past year.——Convict labour is to produce boots and shoes for the London police.——The Queen has sent £7 to a poor woman who has had five children at one birth, and 22 in all, including two triplets. What a fruitful vine!——Napoleon thinks Paris might institute "penny dinners" as well as London.——Mrs. Eva Lancaster, a fair Texan, runs three enterprises—a newspaper, a millinery shop, and a cradle.— —The Missouri apple crop was immensely injured by early cold weather.——California milk weed is said to furnish a fibre as strong as Manilla hemp and as fine as linen ——In Ohio alms-houses, lunatics of both sexes are thrown promiscuously together, and the result is natural multiplication.——A Chicago congregation want a preacher. Besides a good preacher, he must be of good moral character also.——The leg, arm, and foot of a woman were found lying around loose in a St. Louis street the other day.——A young woman in Alabama could not get work, and a paper says, "holding her virtue at a priceless cost, she straggled off and died" of starvation.——The day of wooden ships is past. Iron is the successor.——Nearly every baker in St. Louis was arrested the other day for selling light loaves. There was plenty of fun and swearing as the bakers ran about the streets with their light weights in their hands and the bluecoats after them. 118 bakers were arrested, and 85,000 loaves were confiscated.——Some Vermont women worked at the engine recently at a big fire. A local paper says "the Vermont women have not 'spouted' much on our platforms, but the way they 'spouted' on this fire proves that they have the mettle and the muscle."——A one-line advertisement in a Chicago newspaper, for a bookkeeper, brought 200 applicants.——The Cunard steamship line across the Atlantic was established nearly thirty years ago, and in all that time has not lost one life by shipwreck or disaster at sea.——Sambo is vacating Old Virginia for the South.——Yale students are charged with great vandalism and malicious mischief.——Eighteen inches of snow in Ohio, Nov. 6.——The Philadelphia men medical students won't attend the clinical lectures if the women students do.——A Dundalk mob broke up a tenant-right meeting and shouted "Rossa," "Amnesty," "Remember Tipperary," "No tenant right," and "God save Ireland." The mob wanted amnesty, a labourers' bill, a house free and an acre of ground. Sensible mob.——The "Daily Telegraph" fears the necessity of another suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act in Ireland.——The "Times" says Fenianism grows bolder, agrarian crime continues, and alarm spreads. The parties of order and of revolution now confront each other, and it is felt that the time approaches when one must conquer.——Lord Sandon advised the young men of Liverpool never to get married until they could take their wife to a home, and preserve it for her. He did not read that in the Bible. A local paper thought that if the men had done so, his lordship would have had few constituents.——A mad dog bit about twenty persons at Derby, Nov. 27.——A great fire at Bahia, Nov. 8.——Viscount Holmerden and other landlords in the Weald of Kent have remitted to their tenants 10 per cent. of their rents, on account of the bad hop season.——A double-crested crocodile, 2 feet 7 inches long, was lately found near Denny.——The young ladies of a haunted seminary, near Liverpool, trapped a ghost in the closet. When the door was opened, out walked the principal. She encloseted herself to hear what her students talked about to each other.——The Northwestern States, America, complain of great depression of agriculture, and lay it all to the tariff.— Six months' revival at Richmond, Indiana, made 900 conversions.——California beets average 25 to the ton.——An Albany, New York, paper says that the sod in that country this year is better than before known in the memory of man.——Charles Kingsley preaches "justice to old maids." And younger ones too. Amen.——An Omaha paper says there is no law there for punishing adultery. No, the men are too fond of it.——A passenger train was recently run from Chicago to Omaha, 472 miles, in 17 hours and 10 minutes, including stoppages.——Scarlatina is so prevalent in London, east end, that schools are closed.——The revenue officers are forcibly opposed in Brooklyn, U.S.A., and 800 Federal troops occupy the Irish quarter of that city.——Terrible gales on the American lakes.——Three feet of snow on the Yorkshire moors, and more in Scotland than usual at this season.